

## REMARKS

### **I. Status of the Claims**

Claims 1, 3, 7, 11-26, and 28-35 are pending in the application. Claims 2, 4-6, 8-10, and 27 have been cancelled. Claims 7 and 11 are allowed.

### **II. Allowed Claims 7 and 11**

Claims 7 and 11 have been allowed. The Statement of Reasons for Allowance on page 15 of the Office Action indicates that independent claim 7 has several distinct features including “one or more second databases associated with the first databases, said second databases including update records having update database fields; a search router for receiving the query ... each of said one or more database identifiers identifying one or more of the first databases and a sorter for generating the responsive records resulting from the search of the selected first and second databases, and including in the search output the records responsive to the query except at least one or more of the database records which correspond to the update record when the delete indicator is made in the update database field of the update record.”

### **III. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103**

Claims 1, 3, 12-19, 20-26, 28 and 29-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,374,241 (Lamburt) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,163,597 (Voit). Claims 1, 12, 14, 20, 28, 29 have been amended.

Independent claims 1, 12, 20, and 29 have been amended to include limitations similar to those limitations in allowed claim 7 that are listed in the Statement of Reasons for Allowance on page 15 of the Office Action (and repeated above). It should be noted that claim 1 already included most of the patentable limitations cited by the Examiner in the Statement of Reasons; therefore, the amendments to claim 1 are relatively minor.

Because the cited art does not teach or suggest the limitations that were added by amendment, independent claim 1 and its dependent claim (3), independent claim 12 and its dependent claims (13-19), independent claim 20 and its dependent claims (21-26 and 28), and

independent claim 29 and its dependent claims (30-35) are also patentable over the cited art. The dependent claims also contain patentable limitations.

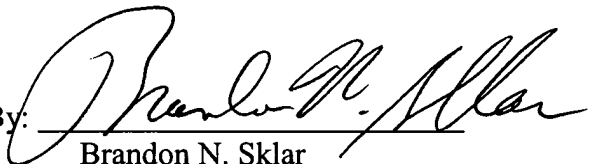
Claim 14 has been amended to conform its language to amended claim 12. Claim 28 has been amended to correct its dependency, so that it depends from claim 26 instead of from cancelled claim 27.

### CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, each of claims 1, 3, 12-19, 20-26, 28 and 29-35, as amended, is believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of these claims is requested and allowance of the application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully,

Dated: February 21, 2006

By:   
Brandon N. Sklar  
Registration No. 31,667  
212-836-8653